



PROMETHEUS

*He gave man speech, And speech created thought,
Which is the measure of the universe.*

Vol. II Issue 1

Greenfield Community College

October, 1963

Director's Message

A book likely to appear on the college's 1964 summer reading list is *The Adventure of Learning in College* by Roger Garrison, president of a junior college for women. Maybe the reading of this book shouldn't wait, except that any student worth his salt is already up to his ears in reading related to his courses.

But Mr. Garrison has words of solace for the staggering student. He says, for instance . . . *every bit as important in your relationships with teachers as their abilities and attitudes, are your own attitudes toward them. If you want full status as an adult learner in a college community, you need to put behind you any childish ideas about academic work. Many a college student attends classes with a billigerent look of interest, in effect challenging the instruction to interest him if he can. This is a ridiculous attitude. You come to college presumably because you are interested in what the institution offers. To put the burden of stimulus and excitement and motivation wholly upon your teachers is both immature and impractical. (It's self-defeating.) I don't know any student who does not want independence, that is, who doesn't want the status of an adult. Yet depending upon your instructors*



Not a care in the world!

Photo by Pat Griffen

to interest you is not only a childish attitude, it will force them to apply the techniques of forced interest: quizzes, formal recitations, penalties for cutting class, or for not doing work, and so on. Your best relationship with an instructor is on the adult level, on the level where you assume at least as much responsibility as he does for your education.

Director Taylor

There are six copies of *The Adventure of Learning in College* in the college library.

G. C. C. News

Keep an eye on the *Greenfield Recorder-Gazette*. Once a month beginning November 16, a full page will be devoted to G. C. C. news and opinion.

The journalism workshop of the humanities program will be supplying the editorials, features, personality sketches, and news for the entire page. College students will be doing the photography work.

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Student Council Conference To Be Held Here

G. C. C. will host 40 students from 6 state community colleges Nov. 29 through Dec. 1. Among the guests arriving Friday evening, will be student government leaders and newspaper editors.

The delegates will stay at Woolman Hill and attend conference workshops there on Saturday. For the evening a social activity sponsored by the college is being planned.

Because many of the community colleges have similar problems, each council benefits from the failures and successes of other councils. Ideas of student activities are to be discussed and exchanged.

In conjunction with the conference will be a meeting of the Publications Board representatives from the six colleges. These people will be collaborating on yearbook, news-

paper, and hand-book ideas.

Students Councils play significant roles in governing community colleges throughout the state. Their effectiveness depends not only upon student interest, but also upon an awareness of school problems and the ability to solve them. This conference provides an opportunity for student councils to broaden their views and increase their efficiency.

Editorial

Our opinion of G.C.C. may be colored by adopted prejudices. Before we can evaluate this school — before we can offer an opinion of it to anyone, we must free our minds from these confining prejudices.

Frequently when we tell local citizens that we attend G.C.C., they react with a bored "oh," an insincere "That's nice," and a barrage of insulting questions.

"Can't you do any better than G.C.C.? Why waste your time at G.C.C.? Why don't you go to UM?"

Our peers who attend other colleges are quick to say that G.C.C. is the last school they would ever think of attending. They imply that any state teachers' college, technical school, or university is far superior to G.C.C.

Some area high school students avoid any advice to apply to G.C.C. like a plague.

Somehow over 240 students dared to apply and were accepted by this down-trodden, under-rated reality. We are those students. We are here trying to learn and in the process perhaps trying to evaluate this guinea pig.

What will *we* say when asked what G.C.C. is like? Some will mouth the prejudiced views of local citizens who have never stepped inside the college's front door. Others will dutifully repeat everything they have read in magazines and newspapers concerning colleges and their students today.

SECOND YEAR STUDENTS RECOMMEND READING!



We don't have to fall into one of these classifications! We have our own minds. We as students of G.C.C. can offer some of the most accurate opinions of the college. We know what the courses, the teachers, and academic atmosphere are like.

We realize that we aren't attending a "name brand" college — we know that G.C.C. has virtually no reputation.

G.C.C. is different from every college in the area. It cannot be evaluated in terms of its size, the work of its graduate students, or past tradition. It must be evaluated entirely on its own merits as they stand today.

We will be deceiving no one but ourselves if we thoughtlessly adopt the prejudices of others. We may distort the college through biased opinion, but in time our thoughts, actions, and even our lives will reflect the quality of the education which we have received at G.C.C.

Marion Bliss

Quoth The Thog

To do nothing is the way to be nothing.

Nathiel Howe

Not even an egotist is all bad. At least he doesn't go around talking about other people.

Changing Times

Do not seek to escape from a flood by clinging to a tiger's tail.

Chinese Proverb

A highbrow is a person educated beyond his intelligence.

Brander Matthews

If in this troubled world we can produce enough guided men, we won't need guided missiles.

Gen. David M. Shoup

The faculty is here to put you into a predicament from which you will wish to extricate yourself.

Director Taylor

While no cure yet has been found for the tensions and anxieties of these perilous times, there does seem to be some promise in illiteracy.

Changing Times

Tug Of War

While attending college, or indeed, any educational institution, we find ourselves presented with a large mass of ideas and opinions. We are told that these ideas come from "reliable" sources, and that we are, therefore, expected to believe them. On the other hand, especially in college, we are told to think for ourselves, to be original, to be individual. No one points out to us that we have been indoctrinated so long into thinking in a certain pattern, that we can no longer think for ourselves. Therefore, we dread being individuals.

It is less painful to go along with everyone else; it is easier to have our beliefs denounced or rebuffed, than it is to stand ground and fight for the ideals we hold. Likewise, it is easy for someone to tell us to fight for ourselves once in a while, since they are not involved in the fray that might be stirred up. It is one thing to stand ground, but when we find ourselves doing it alone that presents a different picture. It is one thing to have ideals, it is another thing to defend them.

Language serves a multitude of purposes not the least of which, is communicating ideas. Philosophers and other men of learning often complain that language is insufficient to express what they have to say, yet they, like everyone else never stop saying it. The man who said that "words are cheap," did not mean inexpensive, for we spend enough money on education so that we can learn them. The price of words is in the value placed on them by the user. The problem is that too many responsible persons have low word values. Any man, if he wishes to spend enough time, can become well versed in vocabulary, but knowledge and eloquence do not imply sincerity or wisdom. If a man, particularly one in a responsible position, has nothing to say, he should say nothing; if he does say something, he should mean it and expect to be held to it.

Norman Hall

PROMETHEUS

Editor Marion Bliss

Staff

Jim Greenleaf Pamela Metaxas
Janet Mowery Susan Palmer
Roger Reed Sandy Reagan
Deanne Collins

Untapped Resources

During a recent Director's Hour, Mr. John Haigis, Jr., manager of WHAI, opened our eyes to some fascinating opportunities for research in this area.

While some 80 students were on their way to Connecticut to view *King Lear*, the remaining G.C.C. students and guests were being informally introduced to the untapped resources of the region.

Mr. Haigis began his discussion with an enthusiastic introduction to the Pocumtuck Indians. This local tribe, which ceased to exist in 1676 following the Battle of Turners Falls, apparently had a highly developed society with a democratic process of electing the chief. Of some interest to the girls present, was the fact that women had the right to vote.

The tribe, which until 1664 ruled the area which is now Hampshire and Franklin counties, was a member of the Pocumtuck Federation, a league set up for self-protection.

Little is known about the Indian survivors of the Battle of Turners Falls. Where did they flee to? Your research begins here. Mr. Haigis suggests tracing land transfers, checking out source information located in Old Deerfield and Bay State history records.

A little research rewarded me with the fact that *the last in the line of Pocumtuck Indian chiefs drank himself to an inglorious death in 1771 with settlers' rum.*

Mr. Haigis's second topic was Deerfield culture. He mentioned that many people are only interested in tracing and discussing family names connected with the settlement.

He suggests that there is a great deal more research to be done on the Deerfield inhabitants and the Deerfield Massacre.

The society appears to have been made up of several nationalities and religious groups. It included, for instance, French Huquenots, Negro slaves, and an Indian.

Colrain was another town brought up for discussion. This town, originally inhabited almost entirely by Scotch-Irish, had 90% literacy, when neighboring towns had only 10% literacy. Of interest is the fact that some of the Resolves of Colrain are related in theory to the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Haigis went on to say that Colrain was once

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BROMLEY SKI FILM

What? BROMLEY SKI FILM
When? Oct. 21, 1963
Where? GCC Auditorium
Who? Everyone
Time? 7:30 p.m.
Admission free!

The Giant Step

As he wanders leisurely through any of America's department or variety stores, the fall shopper will mentally wipe his glasses twice, glance outside at the weather, and check the date on the calendar. He may well gape with shock at the jolly face of Santa beaming down upon him from an impressive display of Christmas decorations. Then he will cluck his tongue, mutter "alas" and resume his normal life.

But, in truth, how is a normal life possible? It seems the sun tans have just begun to fade and surfboards have just disappeared. But the radio announcer dispels this sort of thinking by telling his listeners daily how many days are left until Christmas.

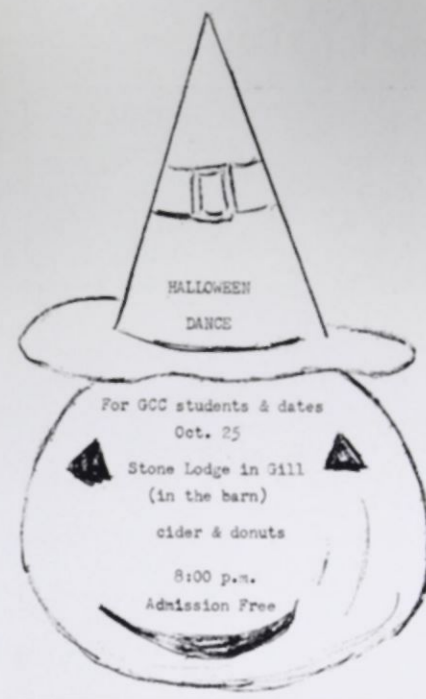
What has happened to those fall days known as Indian Summer? Wherever did those late fall cider parties and hay rides go? Somewhere a whole season has been misplaced; the really important parts of a few months have been exchanged for advertising ventures.

The culprits in this sad situation are the huge retail managers and planners who have by-passed fall by that annual *giant step* from summer to winter.

The indications of such a development are numerous. Time has become a medium of enterprise instead of a worthwhile part of life. The beauty of nature is being ignored by gullible individuals who spend untold hours in the fall madly buying Christmas gifts. The poor creature who enjoys last minute shopping is unfortunately dubbed as old-fashioned and left by the wayside of the sixties.

What a pity that we Americans have finally come to this. If the pathetic slaughter of time is not halted, we will all be swinging on that commercial pendulum which takes the *giant step* from summer to winter without a murmur.

Pamela Metaxas



SPORTS . . .

The Bowling League at G.C.C. is back in operation after a successful beginning last year.

Eighteen eager bowlers showed up at the first meeting. One of their first orders of business was to elect officers.

Marvin Wizwer is now the group's President and Jean Ross their Secretary-Treasurer.

The league, which meets every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m., has now been divided into 6 teams: the *Starfires*, *Strike Outs*, *Kingpins*, *Fins*, *Gutterballs*, and *Dubbers*.

Team standings:

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| <i>Starfires</i> | 142 |
| <i>Gutterballs</i> | 139 |
| <i>Strike Outs</i> | 132 |
| <i>Fins</i> | 129 |
| <i>Kingpins</i> | 124 |
| <i>Dubbers</i> | 122 |

Ski club officers are: President, Rachel Roy; Vice-President, Beverly McClaughlin; Secretary, Olythia Prevett; Treasurer, Sharon Jacob.

Basketball intramurals for G.C.C. boys are being held on Thursday evenings from 5 to 8 at the YMCA. Forty-two players are already participating in the six team league.

If you would like to join a team see Joe Steiner for further information.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

In September of last year it was announced to the student body that 50% of all bookstore profits would be turned over to the Student Council. The administration then reversed its statement and said that all profits would be plowed back into bookstore stock. In the end profits were paid to the private operator of the bookstore and in addition his clerk was also paid by the school instead of by her employer. No one has asked what happened to second semester profits.

It is hoped, however, that someone will ask where this year's profits will go! Are we going to pay salaried office help again for work performed in the bookstore or will the profits be used for needed school improvements? Remember that profits this year will run between \$500 to \$1,000 based on a 5 to 10% profit margin on \$11,500 worth of books.

As a final note I wonder when the director will fully realize that he is running a college, not a junior high school. Never once in my whole school career was I told to clap for a guest on stage. Now almost weekly I am insulted by this request. My ordinary small town manners dictate expressed appreciation for a guest as a common courtesy.

I have also noted that attendance slips are required for Director's Hours. My question is, are the Director's Hours of the future to be such that the student will have to be forced to attend or will they be of the nature that students wish to participate?

Name Withheld

To the Editor:

On June 5, 1963, a dance was held at the St. Kaziemierz Hall in Turners Falls to raise money for the scholarship fund. The Keynotes, orchestra of local popularity, rendered their services free of charge. The hall was donated by the officers of the club. The attendance was extremely poor. There were exactly 22 college students of which eleven were from G. C. C. and 5 high school students attending.

When something like this is done again, I suggest that you give it your support for you may be one who will receive a scholarship.

Second Year Student

SKI CLUB DANCE

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| What? | SKI CLUB DANCE |
| When? | Nov. 2, 1963 |
| Where? | Weldon Hotel |
| Time? | 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. |
| Cost? | 75¢ per person |

Resources

(Continued from Page 3)

larger than Greenfield.

The discussion of Colrain led into another one of Rowe. This town for some reason has declined in population from 950 to 281. Mr. Haigis said that this is a region of static decline rather than a region of steadily declining population. He feels that tourism is one of our largest industries.

He went on to say that a study of age group changes in this area would be most interesting.

Before the end of the hour, Mr. Haigis briefly outlined several other possibilities for research. He included the fact that Mass. is the only state without a state geological survey. He suggested a follow-up on Mr. Dexter Marsh's exploration for dinosaur and bird tracks and the possibility of oil and other deposits in this area.

His comment, "Seven thousand feet down, who knows what we might discover?"

He concluded his presentation with an old Indian legend which strongly suggests that someone did reach America before Columbus.

This legend bears a resemblance to the Biblical story of the flood and the creation of man. It says that when man was bad, the Indian god angrily flooded the land submerging everything. Then he relented and sent a beaver down into the water to get some mud. With the mud he recreated man. The beaver was immortalized in stone.

We can still view him today. He is Mt. Sugarloaf as viewed from Route 5.

... News

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During the first workshop meetings the 14 aspiring journalists will write, edit, and prepare copy. Later in the semester they will be learning the techniques of headline writing, how to prepare a layout, and some of the printers' jargon.

Any G. C. C. student may submit material to workshop to be edited and prepared for the page. This material will be used at the discretion of those involved in the project.

